

BLM Study Review of Hells Canyon Complex Studies

Cultural Resources Survey of the Brownlee Reservoir Drawdown Zone and Reservoir Margin, Washington and Adams Counties, Idaho; Baker and Malheur Counties, Oregon
Technical Report Appendix E.4-3

Dean C. Shaw - Archaeologist, Four Rivers Field Office,
Lower Snake River District, Boise, Idaho
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1.INTRODUCTION

Idaho Power Company contracted Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc. to conduct a cultural resource survey along the shoreline and drawdown zone of the Brownlee Reservoir to identify any cultural resources, to make an initial evaluation of those resources for the National Register of Historic Places, and to assess possible impacts to those cultural resources.

2.CONCLUSION

The contractor completed a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the reservoir shoreline. They discussed known nearby sites and newly discovered resources. They made preliminary evaluations about site significance and discussed possible impacts related to relicensing the Hells Canyon Complex.

3.STUDY ADEQUACY

Initial review indicates that the study meets BLM and State Historic Preservation Office standards. Smithsonian numbers have not been assigned to newly discovered resources yet.

This report addressed goals presented in *Study Plan 8.4.2*.

4.BLM CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSIONS:

The survey was adequate, but minor typographical errors could be corrected. Additional coordination between BLM, SHPO and Idaho Power Company will be required to evaluate sites, assess impacts and consider possible mitigation.

The report was very well done with background research, some analyses and discussions. The impacts assessments were presented and well organized. The tables were useful methods to display an array of information to aid in understanding the issues. The bibliography was extensive. The document could stand as an updated overview of the Brownlee Reservoir Area.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The significance of sites needs to be determined with input from the BLM, the SHPOs and from affected Tribes. Once significance is decided, then protection, mitigation or enhancement may need to take place. The BLM notes that sites 10WN328, 405, 451, 452, and 470 are potentially eligible to the National Register. Site 10WN526 is not eligible.

The maps that indicated areas surveyed are gray and fuzzy, a different graphic or the use of color could make these maps more legible and useful.